

WHAT IS WRONG WITH THE WORLD?

A study of Christian Ethics from Romans

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Other Major World Views

ISLAM says the world would be fixed if all would convert to Islam and all the infidels were destroyed.

Because of that, We decreed upon the Children of Israel that whoever kills a soul unless for a soul or for corruption [done] in the land - it is as if he had slain mankind entirely. And whoever saves one - it is as if he had saved mankind entirely. And our messengers had certainly come to them with clear proofs. Then indeed many of them, [even] after that, throughout the land, were transgressors. Indeed, the penalty for those who wage war against Allah and His Messenger and strive upon earth [to cause] corruption is none but that they be killed or crucified or that their hands and feet be cut off from opposite sides or that they be exiled from the land. That is for them a disgrace in this world; and for them in the Hereafter is a great punishment, (Q'uran 5:32-33)

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ATHEISTS says the world would be fixed if religion was not here to corrupt it.

It is fashionable to wax apocalyptic about the threat to humanity posed by the AIDS virus, "mad cow" disease, and many others, but I think a case can be made that *faith* is one of the world's great evils, comparable to the smallpox virus but harder to eradicate. – Richard Dawkins

The objections to religion are of two sorts - intellectual and moral. The intellectual objection is that there is no reason to suppose any religion true; the moral objection is that religious precepts date from a time when men were more cruel than they are and therefore tend to perpetuate inhumanities which the moral conscience of the age would otherwise outgrow. – Bertrand Russell

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BUDDHISM says the world would be fixed if we transcended suffering.

FIRST NOBLE TRUTH – Life is suffering

SECOND NOBLE TRUTH – Desire is the origin of suffering and all desire must be let go of

THIRD NOBLE TRUTH – You can cease your suffering and should

FOURTH NOBLE TRUTH – The Buddhist 8-fold path is the way out of suffering

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ENVIRONMENTALISTS says the world would be fixed if we were extinct.

JEWS says the world would be fixed if the Messiah arrived.

HUMANISTS says the world would be fixed if we all could accept each other as we are.

PROGRESSIVES says the world would be fixed if the government could have more control.

CONSERVATIVES says the world would be fixed if the government had less control.

INNOVATORS says the world would be fixed if the proper technology is created.

RACISTS says the world would be fixed if certain races ceased to exist.

HOW DO CHRISTIANS SAY WE CAN FIX THE WORLD?

...and, "You, Lord, in the beginning laid the foundation of the earth, and the heavens are the works of Your hands; they will perish, but You remain; and **they all will become old like a garment**, and like a mantle You will roll them up; like a garment they will also be changed, but You are the same, and Your years will not come to an end." (Heb 1:10-12)

Christianity is the only worldview that says there is **NO EARTHLY SOLUTION.**

“For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men who suppress the truth in unrighteousness because that which is known about God is evident within them; for God made it evident to them.” (Rom 1:18-19)

For **you always have the poor** with you, and whenever you want, you can do good for them.
(Mark 14:7a)

Jesus said, “Truly, I say to you, there is no one who has left house or brothers or sisters or mother or father or children or lands, for My sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time, houses and brothers and sisters and mothers and children and lands, **with persecutions**, and in the age to come eternal life.” (Mk 10:30)

THERE ARE **TWO REASONS** FOR
THIS STATE OF THE WORLD:

OTHER PEOPLE & ME

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THE NON-
BELIEVER
&
THE BELIEVER
ARE
BOTH THE
PROBLEM

Therefore you have no excuse, O man, every one of you who judges. For in passing judgment on another you condemn yourself, **because you, the judge, practice the very same things.** We know that the judgment of God rightly falls on those who do such things. Do you suppose, O man—you who judge those who do such things and yet do them yourself—that you will escape the judgment of God? (Rom 2:1-3)

For when Gentiles, who do not have the law, by nature do what the law requires, they are a law to themselves, even though they do not have the law. (Rom 2:14)

SOMETIMES WE EVEN FIND THAT THE
IRRELIGIOUS CAN BE MORE MORAL THAN
THE RELIGIOUS!

You who boast in the law dishonor God by breaking the law. For, as it is written, "The name of God is blasphemed among the Gentiles because of you." (Rom 2:23-24)

Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, **and the whole world may be held accountable to God.** For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

(Rom 3:19-20)

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For God so loved the world, that He gave His only Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through Him. (Jhn 3:16-17)

Do not love the world or the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world—the desires of the flesh and the desires of the eyes and pride in possessions—is not from the Father but is from the world. And the world is passing away along with its desires, but whoever does the will of God abides forever. (1 Jn 2:15-17)

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WE ARE ALSO THE MOST HOPEFUL PEOPLE ON THE PLANET